WO 2005/064310 . PCT/IN2003/000443

## Claims:

5

15

20

1. A method for determining the end point of cooking of grains which comprise placing sample grains between two plates, applying a predetermined load of weight on said pair of plates for a predetermined period of time causing said grain to spread in between said pair of plates, determining 'spread area' of said grain and measuring it at regular time intervals, the time at which a sudden increase or attainment of a constant value in the spread area is observed, being an indication of the cooking time of said grain.

- 10 2. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said grain is cooked pulses or rice.
  - 3. A device for determining the end point of cooking of grains which comprise a ram or a plunger mounted on a housing and adapted to move linearly in said housing, a. lever connected at one end to said ram and mounted on said housing, the other end of said lever being free and carrying a loading means for receiving a predetermined load of weights, a platform at the foot of said housing on which a pair of plates are placed, a sample of grains whose end point of cooking is to be determined being placed in between said plates, whereby, addition of a predetermined load of weights on the means for receiving a predetermined load weights depressing said lever downwardly causing it to push said ram downwards against said pair of plates, and thereby pressing the sample of grains contained therebetween, causing it to spread, so that the 'spread area' of said grain can be determined and measured at a regular time interval, the time at which a sudden increase or attainment of a constant value in the spread area is observed, being an indication of the cooking time of said grain.
- 4. A device as claimed in claim 3 wherein said lever is mounted on said housing through a fulcrum.
  - 5. A device as claimed in claim 4 wherein said lever is mounted on said housing through a spring means to restore the ram to its original position after the application of force on the sample grains.
  - 6. A device as claimed in claim 4 wherein said device is mounted on a base.